

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. Applicant has rewritten claims 1, 3, 5, 18-25, canceled claims 2, 4, 7-11, and added new claims 31-32. Favorable reconsideration of this application is, consequently, earnestly solicited in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the novel features of former dependent claims 2 and 4.

New independent claim 31 is a combination of former independent claim 1 and dependent claims 12-13, and the clarification that there are two sets of crossed straps each crossed pair adjacent to one another.

New independent claim 32 is a combination of former independent claim 1 and the novel features of former dependent claim 4.

The objection to claims 16, 17, 27, and rejection under sec. 112, second paragraph is now moot since the claims have been accordingly amended. Removal of the objection and sec. 112, rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 and 28-30 were rejected under obviousness type double patenting over applicant's parent patent application. This rejection is now moot since a terminal disclaimer has been filed with this response.

Claims 1-3, 7-8 and 14-16 were rejected under Kyu. Claim 1 has been amended to include the novel features of claims 2 and 4. Thus, removal of this rejection is requested.

Claim 30 was rejected by Kyu in view of Larja. Claim 1 has been amended to include the novel features of claims 2 and 4. Thus, removal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 1-3, 7-8, 12, 14-22 and 26-29 were rejected over Tomason in view of Kyu. Claim 1 has been amended to include the novel features of claims 2 and 4. Thus, removal of this rejection is requested.

Claim 13 was rejected over Tomason in view of Kyu and in view of Hwang. Tomason in view of Kyu.

New independent claim 31 is a combination of former independent claim 1 and dependent claims 12-13, and the clarification that there are two sets of crossed straps each crossed pair adjacent to one another. Clearly, Hwang is limited to one set of crossed straps in the middle of the cot, which is substantially and structurally different.

Claims 23-25 were rejected over Tomason in view of Kyu and in view of Ipsen. Claim 1 has been amended to include the novel features of claims 2 and 4. Thus, removal of this rejection is requested.

The mere fact that someone in the art can rearrange parts of a reference device to meet the terms of a claim is not by itself sufficient to support a finding of obviousness. The prior art must provide a motivation or reason for someone of ordinary skill in the art, without the benefit of the inventor's specification to make the necessary changes in the reference device. *Ex parte Chicago Rawhide Mfg. Co.*, 223 USPQ 351, 353 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1984).

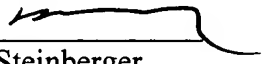
There is no teaching, nor suggestion for modifying the references of record to include all the novel features of the amended claims. Under well recognized rules of the MPEP (for example, section 706.02(j)), the teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior

art, and not based on applicant's disclosure. In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438(Fed. Cir. 1991).

Applicant contends the references cannot be modified to incorporate the features of subject claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 12-32 without utilizing Applicant's disclosure. The courts have consistently held that obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to Applicant to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion, incentive or motivation supporting the combination.

In view of the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully urged that claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 12-32 be allowed. Such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to contact the attorney at the below listed number.

Respectfully Submitted;



Brian S. Steinberger
Registration No. 36,423
101 Brevard Avenue
Cocoa, Florida 32922
Telephone: (321) 633-5080

Date

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